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Bureau of Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Office of Food for Peace**

Annual Results Report

**Save the Children Federation, Inc.
Guatemala
Award No. FFP-A-12-00007**

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Acronyms & Definitions	
ADECHIQ	Farmers' Association for the Development of Concepción Chiquirichapa, Quetzaltenango
ACIC	Farmer's Integrated Cooperative Association of Cunen (onion farmers association)
AGEXPORT	Guatemalan Exporters Association
AL	Agricultural Leader
ANACAFE	National Coffee Association
ARR	Annual Results Report
ASPINACH	Pine Farmers Association of Concepción Huista
BFS	Bureau of Food Security
BANRURAL	Banco de Desarrollo Rural/Rural Development Bank
CAP	Product Aggregation Center
CATIE	Center for Tropical Agronomy and Teaching
CDF	Community Development Funds
CENMA	Central Wholesale Market
CEPROCAL	Western Highland Goat Production Center
CNNG	Clima, Naturaleza y Comunidades de Guatemala
CIPCA	Integrated Production and Agro-Environmental Training Center
COCODE	Community Development Committees
COCOSSAN	Comisión Comunitaria de Salud Seguridad Alimentaria Nutricional (Health and Food Security Community Committee)
COLRED	Coordinadora Local para la Reducción de Desastres (Coordinating Body for DRR)
COMRED	Coordinadora Municipal para la Reducción de Desastres (Coordinating Municipal Body for DRR)
COMUDE	Municipal Development Committee
COMUSAN	Municipal Food and Nutrition Security Commission
CONALFA	Comisión Nacional de Alfabetización (National Literacy Commission)
CONRED	Coordinadora Nacional para la Reducción de Desastres (National Coordination Body for DRR)
COSAN	Comisión de Seguridad Alimentaria Nutricional (Food Security Committee)
CRS	Catholic Relief Services
CSB	Corn Soy Blend
DCHA	Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance (USAID)
DFAP	Development Food Aid Program
DIP	Detail Implementation Plan
DMP	Municipal Planning Bureau
DQA	Data Quality Assessment
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EMPR	Environmental Reporting Matrix
ES	Exit Strategy
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization
FEWS NET	Famine Early Warning Systems Network
FFP	Food for Peace
FFW	Food for Work
FS	Food Security
FS	Field Schools
FUNCAFE	Fundación del Café (Coffee Foundation)
FUNDAECO	Development and Environmental Conservation Foundation
FtF	Feed the Future
FY	Fiscal Year
GMP	Growth Monitoring and Promotion
GOG	Government of Guatemala
HC3	Health Communication Capacity Collaborative

Program Name: PAISANO

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HAZ	Height for Age Z Score
HH	Household
HS	Health Service
ICTA	Instituto de Ciencia y Tecnología Agrícolas/Institute of Agricultural Science and Technology)
IEE	Initial Environmental Evaluation
INSIVUMEH	National Institute of Seismology, Volcanology, Meteorology, and Hydrology
IPPT	Indicator Performance Tracking Table
IR	Intermediate Result
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MAGA	Guatemala Ministry of Agriculture
MCH	Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition
MEP	Monitoring and Evaluation Program (USAID Guatemala)
MIDES	Ministry of Social Development of Guatemala
ML	Mother Leader
MOH	Ministry of Health
MTE	Mid Term Evaluation
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NP	Nutrition Promoters
NUTRISALUD	Community Project of Health and Nutrition
OMM	Oficina Municipal de la Mujer/Municipal Women Office
PAISANO	Western Program of Integrated Food Security and Food Actions
PAG	Plan de Acción de Género (Gender Action Plan)
PCI	Project Concern International
PCVR	USAID Feed the Future Programa de Cadenas de Valor/ Rural Value Chain Program (comprised of 2 projects, one implemented by AGEXPORT called Cultivando el Futuro and another by ANACAFE called Proyecto de Cadenas de Valor de Café)
PIRR	Plans for Integrated Community Risk Reduction
PM2A	Preventing Malnutrition in Children under 2 Approach
PPI	Progress out of Poverty Index
PREP	Pipeline and Resource Estimate Proposal
PROMASA I/II	Programa Maya de Seguridad Alimentaria I/II (Food Security Maya Program)
Q 1-4	Quarter 1-4
SAMI	Sistema Automatizado de Monitoreo de Información (Automated System for Information Monitoring)
SAT	Superintendencia de Administración Tributaria (Guatemala Tax Administration Agency)
SBC	Social Behavior Change Communication
SC	Save the Children
SCUS	Save the Children United States
SEGAMIL	Food Security Program Focused on the First Thousand Days
SEPREM	Presidential Women's Secretariat
SESAN	Secretariat for Food and Nutrition Security of Guatemala
SO	Strategic Objective
TIGO	Mobile phone company
TOR	Terms of Reference
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WASH	Water, sanitation and hygiene
WAZ	Weight for Age Z Score
WE	Women Empowered
WFP	World Food Program
WHIP	Western Highland Integrated Program

Introduction

Save the Children (SC) was awarded the Programa de Acciones Integrados de Seguridad Alimentaria y Nutricional del Occidente (PAISANO)/ Western Highlands Program of Integrated Food Security & Food Actions by USAID/Food for Peace (FFP) in August 2012. In partnership with Project Concern International (PCI), the program seeks to reduce food insecurity among the most vulnerable rural households (HHs) in three departments of the Guatemalan Western Highlands. To achieve this goal, PAISANO works across three Strategic Objectives (SOs): a) SO1: Household access to food increased; b) SO2: Malnutrition among girls and boys under 5 years reduced; and c) SO3: Community resilience improved through governance and disaster preparedness.

Over the course of FY16, PAISANO enrolled 6,839 new households (HH) into the program, increasing the number of beneficiary HHs reached over the life of the award to 24,849 HH from 189 communities. In FY16, a total of 11,080 families participated in SO2 activities and received food rations; 5,098 households were involved in SO1 livelihoods activities, and 2,955 households benefited directly from activities implemented under SO3.¹

A number of important milestones were reached in GY16. In February 2016, PAISANO received the draft USAID-led Mid-Term Evaluation (MTE) Report which made several key recommendations for the program. Among the most significant SO1 and SO2 recommendations were: 1) refining the beneficiary targeting strategy to better tailor and differentiate interventions to poor and extreme poor households; increasing consistency and quality of support; increasing linkages to agricultural value chains; improving knowledge management and placing a stronger emphasis on adult education and negotiated change Social Behavior Change (SBC) techniques; implementation of graduation elements; formally incorporating water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) activities; and, improving links with the country's health systems. In SO3 the recommendations were focused on: emphasizing work with municipal and community coordinating bodies as Municipal Development Committee (COMUDEs) and Community Development Committees (COCODES) for disaster risk reduction (DRR) to improve governance and resilience, as well as better integration of youth into the program. To improve the quality and delivery of the program and enhance impact, SC and PCI incorporated USAID's recommendations into the FY16 Pipeline and Resource Estimate Proposal (PREP), ultimately approved in August 2016. An update on progress and efforts towards the MTE recommendation implementation can be found in Annex I of this report.

It is also important to note that during FY16, PAISANO collaborated with the USAID Guatemala Mission, the Western Highlands Integrated Program (WHIP) and other USAID projects including the Catholic Relief Services-led SEGAMIL DFAP and Nexos Locales on the topic of "water", especially with regards to standardizing messages and revising materials used in the field for household safe water consumption and water chlorination.

¹ SO3 activities include community projects that support much of the community benefitting from PAISANO support through improved water infrastructure, roads or community preparedness and mitigation efforts. The 2,955 HH figure refers to those families directly benefitting from the Food for Work (FFW) activity under SO3.

The following sections of this report discuss the achievements and lessons learned under each SO over the course of FY16, and this report is accompanied by a set of Annexes that provide additional details.

Annual Food Assistance Project Activities and Results

Strategic Objective I (SOI): Household Access to Food Increased

Intermediate Result I.1 (IR): Household agricultural production diversified and increased

Lower-level Result I.1.1 (LR): Use of improved agricultural production practices increased:

In accordance with MTE recommendations, the technical staff (17 men and 2 women) and community volunteers (186 men and 100 women) were trained in various new methods and activities. This included, among other things, improved SBCC on nutrient and protein-rich consumption, focusing on families living in extreme poverty, and ensuring greater access to production practices for families with little land (vertical gardens, and rabbit and poultry production).

During the year, the team developed, in collaboration with the Center for Tropical Agronomy and Teaching (CATIE), training manuals on the Farm Field School (FFS) methodology. These incorporated more aspects of the methodology which the program was already partially using. The program integrated the use of demonstration plots, more participatory approaches with farmers in developing training topics, and more emphasis on results monitoring of participants' adoption of the practice, and any needed follow up coaching.

During FY16, SOI staff helped 4,329 families² acquire knowledge on improved crop production by means of vertical and horizontal home gardens, storage of basic grains and production of improved bean varieties. Additionally, 4,006 families³ were trained in poultry, milk goats, and rabbit production – all of which contribute significantly to increasing access to high quality animal protein source foods. The program also organized new producer groups - as a key medium for increasing application of improved agricultural practices. These groups included vegetable seedling production groups, livestock service providers, small local farmer's groups, formal associations, youth groups and women's groups. In FY16, a significant focus was added on informal farmer's groups in recognition of the opportunities to working with these farmers and the barriers to developing registered associations. During the year, the program also added new important capacity building for group members in financial literacy, business skills and organizational management into the existing technical training curricula. All of this will lend to greater social cohesion, groups' collective bargaining power and increased opportunities for self-financing business opportunities – contributing to the success and sustainability of the program's activities.

Lower-level Result I.1.3 (LR): Use of improved agricultural inputs increased: To provide support for the FFS methodology in technology transfer and input use, the program provided support to help 32 Agricultural Leaders (ALs) improve their demonstration plots which are open to PAISANO participants as well as other interested farmers. Additionally, in

² This number comes from the sum of DIP activities 7, 8, 10 and 11.

³ This figure comes from DIP activities 14, 15 and 17.

coordination with the USAID Feed the Future Rural Value Chain Project (PCVR) implemented by the Guatemalan Association of Exporters (AGEXPORT), SC and the Institute for Agricultural Science and Technology (ICTA) distributed improved bean seeds for use in program activities. The Buena Milpa Program facilitated the provision of *bolonillo* beans for intercropping with corn. As a complement, 820 families improved their grain storage using improved devices and metal silos which allowed them to consume grain free of contamination, particularly, aflatoxins.

Access to vegetables for home consumption was increased through home gardens for 1,806 new families⁴. Approximately 40% of them also sell surplus in their community. In FY16, promotion and establishment of vertical gardens began with families in extreme poverty who have limited areas for planting. However, because of the labor intensive nature of establishing and maintaining them with frequent watering, they have not been well accepted. The program is planning a participatory analysis through the FFS in the first month of FY17 to assess options.

The program also provided significant technical, business and management skills building training and assistance in FY17 to the farmer's managing the five vegetable seedling production centers. This year a total of 85,280 seedlings were produced for cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, *hierba mora*, swiss chard, spinach, tomato and jalapeño chilies. These were used by 631 PAISANO participants and 113 non-participants. The five centers had a total annual sales of US \$4,587 and profits of US \$2,064. Currently 25 more centers are being developed which are expected to serve approximately 3,800 families who produce home gardens and commercial plots.⁵ This activity is part of the sustainability strategy that will facilitate quality vegetable seedling availability at low prices for families in the program as well as others outside the program, so that they can continue to grow and use the vegetables for consumption and sales after PAISANO ends.

Additionally, in Huehuetenango, in coordination with the FtF Rural Value Chains Project implemented by the National Coffee Association (ANACAFE), PAISANO and ANACAFE began signed an agreement at the end of FY16. Following, the FY16 PREP approval, PAISANO and ANACAFE designed and administered a survey in Q4 FY16, to approximately 170 families in the Municipalities of San Antonio Huista and Todos Santos, which are coffee production areas within PAISANO's geographic area. The survey collected key data from the families including information on current yields, the coffee varieties they produce, and if they had less than 16 cuerdas (0.7 hectares) of land.

Under this collaboration with the FtF project and ANACAFE, a total of nine coffee producer groups were formed, composed of 150 PAISANO families, and a total of 6.5 hectares were established with improved coffee varieties.⁶ Additionally, PAISANO facilitated the establishment of 36 demonstration plots for soil conservation and organic fertilizer use. ANACAFE

⁴This figure comes from DIP activities 25 and 26.

⁵ Farmers and new centers were identified based on the following criteria: i) entrepreneurial vocation, growth potential (number of farmers who grow commercially); ii) number of families with gardens; iii) number of irrigation systems in the center's coverage area; and, iv) resources available (land, water, access). This data defines the size of the center and the projections for production and marketing.

⁶ The Costa Rica 95 and Sarchimor varieties were selected for their resistance to coffee rust.

contributed to increased PAISANO staff capacity by providing training of trainers (TOT) sessions on coffee production to two technical staff.

In order to increase the availability of protein from animal sources in families' diets, various livestock activities were implemented. In FY16, 736 new families began home-based rabbit production which has been well accepted for its rapid reproduction rate, minimal amount of food required compared to other species, and minimal space requirements. Currently 27% of the families that have rabbits have begun consuming the meat and 34% have sold rabbits.⁷ Additionally, 1,980 families began new poultry production and by the end of the FY, on average, each family had 10 hens of which 3 were in production which resulted in 6 to 7 eggs per week. This also facilitated eventual consumption or sale of hens, and 177 new families began goat production in addition to the 1,290 who already had goats.⁸

PAISANO continued to generate fee-based, sustainability opportunities and provided training to 42 agricultural leaders (38 men and 4 women) in key business and management principles: production costs, income projection, customer service and use of sales records, as well as technical aspects for management of veterinary medicine, pests and animal diseases. Initial records from this year indicate that 56% of the 7,000 families that work with SOI in livestock activities received services (some for a fee and others free) from the AL livestock service providers, covering over 68% of the program's communities. On average a net income for some ALs was in the range of US \$20.00 per month. This will gradually increase as they acquire more veterinary knowledge, increase the number of animal species they cover, and conduct promotion and marketing activities for their services in other areas.

Due to an increased focus on gender-equitable activities and improved monitoring methods, in the last reporting quarter, PAISANO can report that men's participation in the implementation of improved agricultural practices and technologies increased, with data indicating that male participation was at approximately 34% at the close of the FY.

Intermediate Result 1.2 (IR): Access especially for women, to savings, credit, business and/or leadership opportunities

Lower-level Result 1.2.1 (LR): Access to savings and credit services of women increased:

During FY16, PAISANO significantly expanded Women's Empowerment (WE's) savings groups due to increased interest and resulting from the positive impact they have had on: women's empowerment and leadership; improved access to financial resources; and, increasing of smoothing family income. The groups have been consistently generating savings and lending opportunities since the beginning of the program, many of which have served as supplements to family income-generation. In FY16, 23 new groups were formed (10 PCI and 13 SC) in 22 communities, with a total of 394 new members (368 women and 26 men). The 93 previously formed groups were strengthened with training on financial literacy (ie. production costs, entries, and records), business plan preparation, conflict resolution, and networking opportunities through the formation of group networks.

⁷ This percentage will gradually increase as families have greater experience in production and there are more reproductive cycles in the year.

⁸ These activities were phased down in FY16 per FFP's MTE recommendation.

Of 103 groups, the following data indicates significant positive success in this important nutrition-sensitive intervention:

Table No.1. Financial Indicators (in US dollars) of the WE groups for 2016				
Total savings	Total loans ⁹	Loans in circulation	Number of loans	Default
\$21,243.20	\$57,552.00	\$30,010.79	753	0%

Careful monitoring provides overwhelming evidence that a majority of the loans are used for income generation, wherein: 28% were used for food; 27% for health needs (ie. medicines, transportation to health services, etc.); 43% of loans were used for income generation activities (ie. bread making, clothing sales, small stores, etc.); and 2% were used for other purposes. A total of 2,279 loans have been disbursed over the life of the program with a value of US \$134,463. This initiative has had a very positive impact on women, their families and communities, and the program will continue its expansion and support through the end of PAISANO.

Lower-level Result 1.2.2 (LR): Women's business and leadership opportunities increased: Through the WE groups, women receive training in entrepreneurship, business skills, production costs, and market analysis. With these concepts they are able to decide which activities available to them will be most profitable. In Huehuetenango, 220 women (11% of the total in Huehuetenango) currently hold key posts with a voice and vote in their local churches, COCODE, COSAN/COCOSAN, COLRED, or as Mother Leaders or Agricultural Leaders. The strengthening of the Women's Network of nine WE groups in San Antonio Huista continued this FY with PAISANO's support to the groups, facilitating the preparation of Business/Action Plans, and creating linkages with other entities such as ANACAFE, CONALFA, HEIFER Project, and FAO.

Intermediate Result 1.3 (IR): Access to markets increased

Lower-level Result 1.3.1 (LR): Linkages between market actors with associations, communities and municipalities increased: In FY16, PAISANO facilitated a number of critical linkages with important market actors that will contribute to sustainability, post-program, for this activity. The program coordinated the election of one market agent for each of the three associations supported by the program. These agents will share price information which will contribute to increased bargaining power with local buyers. The three Product Aggregation Centers (CAPs) managed by the associations also transitioned to full self-management and financing for all elements of their operations this FY.¹⁰

In FY16, PAISANO also linked the potato farmers association, ADECHIQ, with the UNISUPER supermarket chain, through which they sold 1,680 quintals (76,364 kgs. /168,353 lbs.) of potatoes between February and September. These positive sales and initial data indicate that 48 families were able to sell their product for 10% more than they could to a local buyer. It is

⁹ The loan amount for the year is greater than savings because the loan capital is cumulative (total of savings plus interest generated in three years of WE implementation).

¹⁰ Four CAP's were included in the FY16 PREP, however only three will be pursued because, more attention and investment will be done within the poorest and most vulnerable famers instead of expanding this activity, in accordance with the MTE recommendations.

expected that more farmers from the region will join as the demand from commercial buyers grows.

PAISANO also supported the onion farmers (ACIC Association) to successfully develop a purchase agreement with the FAIR-FRUIT agro-exporter which offered to pay US \$53 per quintal (46kgs. /101 lbs.) of snow peas; which is 14% higher than their previous purchaser.¹¹ With this negotiation, the association members and 25 additional families benefit and use the CAP for product aggregation. Again, as demand increases, the number of farmers is also expected to increase. In FY16, a diagnostic study was carried out for the onion and potato associations that will serve as the basis to prepare a training plan and a business plan.

In FY16, the PAISANO supported operation, CEPROCAL (Western Highland Goat Production Center), produced 62 breeding bucks that were given to community members, and meetings were held with the Guatemala Ministry of Agriculture (MAGA) to work on the protocols needed for marketing goat semen. In FY17, PAISANO will hire a consultant to conduct a sustainability analysis of CEPROCAL.¹²

Lower-level Result 1.3.1 (LR): Marketing capacities of associations strengthened: In addition to the successes and results reported in 1.3.2 above, and with support from the USAID's Feed the Future PCVR project, PAISANO finalized training of 32 members of the ADECHIQ and ACIC associations (30 men and 2 women) in agricultural best practices. Under this LR, ASPINACH members received capacity building in the following topics: a) a business plan development, b) association internal regulations, c) the formation of commissions, and d) monitoring, outreach and marketing over the course of the FY.

Strategic Objective 2 (SO2): Malnutrition among girls and boys under 5 years reduced

PAISANO continues focusing its efforts on helping families adopt key health and nutrition practices with an emphasis on the 1,000 Day Window and implementing the recommendations from the MTE (Annex 1).

Intermediate Result 2.1 (IR): Use of quality maternal child health and nutrition (MCHN) preventive services increased

Lower-level Result 2.1.1 (LR): Quality of community level MCHN services improved

In this fiscal year, the challenges plaguing the Ministry of Health (MoH) continued, including a lack of supplies, basic equipment and human resources; which impacted service provision, particularly the population within the 1,000 Day Window supported by the program. Additionally, following elections in late 2015, there was a change of government in Guatemala, which resulted in changes in the Health Area authorities within the Program's intervention areas, slowing efforts for coordination between the MoH and PAISANO. Regardless of these shortcomings, an agreement with Health Area of Huehuetenango was ratified with PAISANO

¹¹ Please note that ACIC association farmers dedicate most of their time to onion production, however to avoid monoculture and improve soil fertility and income opportunities, they take advantage of other seasonal opportunities. Many farmers plant snow peas, which can be grown well between November and January.

¹² Postponed due to re-prioritization of activities in FY16, but will be carried-out in FY17 per the FY17 PREP.

this FY. The program will continue to monitor progress and change within the MoH in an effort to identify opportunities for support, to find synergies and to allow for hand-over, wherever appropriate.

PAISANO, in coordination with Nutri-Salud, continued with the implementation of the plan for strengthening MoH community health care workers in the department of Quiché (Chajul, Cotzal and Nebaj), and in Huehuetenango (Chiantla).¹³ Eight workshops were carried out (2 per municipality) with the participation of 117 people (32% women and 68% men).

Lower-level Result 2.1.2 (LR): Referral system between community and Ministry of Health (MoH) services strengthened

PAISANO carried out 11 workshops to train Mother Leaders (MLs) and COSAN members (122 men and 133 women) in the referral system, this FY. As a result of this activity, the COSAN became actively involved in the promotion of health care seeking behaviors in the presence of acute malnutrition, danger signs and emergency situations, while MLs strengthened their abilities to identify, refer and provide follow-up at the HH level; promoting community health and social auditing. During the fiscal year, 205 referrals were made to the health services (57% for acute malnutrition, 35% for danger signs in children, and 8% for danger signs in pregnancy) and follow up was provided at the HH level. Eighty-two percent of children or mothers were referred and received assistance from a MoH trained health worker. Follow-up home visits were made to support recovery by verifying compliance with the treatment provided by the Health Services (HS) and verify the adoption of health and nutrition practices.

Intermediate Result 2.2 (IR): Use of improved health and nutrition practices at household level increased

Lower-level Result 2.2.1 (LR): Knowledge of and attitudes towards key MCHN practices improved: Each family that participated in growth monitoring and promotion (GMP) sessions conducted in FY16 were asked about the recognition of danger signs for pregnant women, newborns (< 28 days) and children as well as seeking health services under referral. All indicators related with recognition of danger signs surpassed the FY16 targets; these results can be seen in the IPPT (Indicators #31, #32, and #33). An important finding is that all of the pregnant women referred, sought health services when danger signs were present. Still, a lower percentage of mothers sought health services for their children; likely the result of resistance that has developed since the health system has been lacking of medical supplies and treatment for common diseases, and hospital references are not always accepted by the families due to the distance and that hospital policy they cannot stay with their children. During the last GMP held in August 2016, no cases of newborns with danger signs were recorded and were thus not required to seek health services (Indicators #24, #25, and #26).

Following receipt of the MTE recommendations (Annex I), PAISANO developed and implemented a communication strategy to share the changes in targeting, food delivery and registration mechanisms to staff, community (community authorities and volunteer staff) and

¹³In FY16, Module II: Exclusive Breastfeeding and Complementary Feeding, and Module III: Prevalent Childhood Diseases, were developed.

participant families.¹⁴ PAISANO made efforts to communicate these changes and promote attendance at program activities: in spite of this, many families were very upset and lost confidence with the program for not complying with what was offered when they registered, mainly in those families with children between 24 and 30 months old, and families that did not meet the criteria to receive rations when the Progress out of Poverty (PPI) is applied. This situation affected participation in all activities, but especially in GMP sessions: resulting in a total coverage of 79% of the children of 0 to 23 months of age who were registered in the last GMP and 16% of children from 24 to 30 months; a reduction when compared with coverage ranging 81% to 90% in quarterly sessions in previous fiscal years. The program will conduct a quick poll in Q1 of FY17 to identify barriers and motivations of families to identify strategies to include within the Targeting Strategy and Roll-out Plan.

In response to the recommendation to implement a SBC strategy based on adult education principles, key behaviors were prioritized to be promoted by PAISANO¹⁵ and the training guides were redesigned¹⁶ for MLs and NPs, and for Nutrition Schools.¹⁷ Additionally, facilitation skills were evaluated as well as the use of adult education methodologies by the program's technical and volunteer staff.¹⁸ The results, presented in the FY16 Q3 report, were incorporated into the redesigned guides and were used to strengthen staff in the use of the

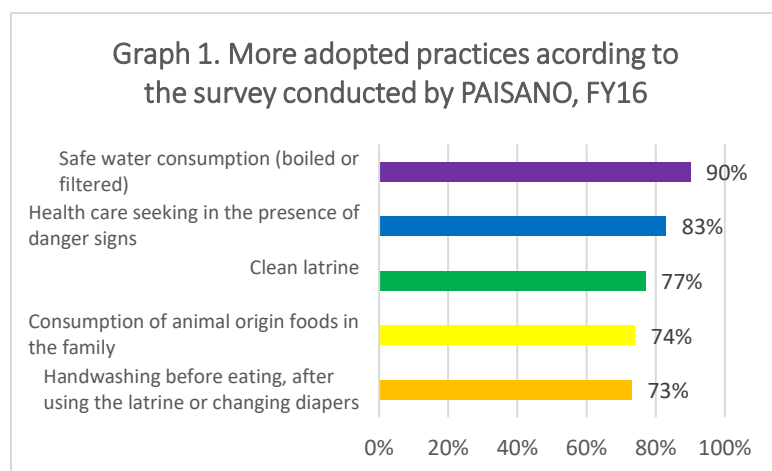
¹⁴ Infographics were designed as communication material and the technical team was trained to ensure that the messages were explained clearly to facilitate understanding.

¹⁵ Prioritized Health Practices: 1: I eat animal origin foods; 2: I go to the health service for prenatal care; 3: I exclusively breastfeed my child up to six months of age; 4: At six months I begin to give foods to my baby; 5: At nine months I give foods that come from animals; 6: At one year of age, I feed my child everything; 7: My family eats safe foods; 8: My family washes their hands; 9: We clean the latrine in my home; 10: I put the infant feces in the latrine; 11: I have a clean place for my baby; 12: My family drinks boiled, chlorinated or filtered water; 13: We go to the health services when there are danger signs.

¹⁶ General Sessions: Self-esteem, Chronic malnutrition, Action Plan and My family is a team. Specific Sessions: Diet during pregnancy; Prenatal Control and decreased work load; Feeding of children under two, which includes: exclusive breastfeeding, complementary feeding from 6 to 8 months, from 9 to 11 months and from 12 to 24 months. For WASH, the following topics were established: hand washing, cleaning of latrines, placing infant feces in the latrine, having a clean place for the baby, drinking safe water, and taking a child or pregnant women to the health services in case of an emergency. These Guides include four areas: a) Practice of communication skills based on negotiated behavior change proposed by the CORE Group, b) Practice of food demonstrations, and Nutrition School for the Lead Mother and home visits by the Nutrition Promoter, c) Reinforcement of knowledge of practices, and d) Gender focus based on the PAISANO Gender Action Plan.

¹⁷ The Guides cover five modules: Module 1: Self-esteem, chronic malnutrition, action plan and in my family we work as a team; Module 2: Safe pregnancy; Module 3: Feeding with love; Module 4: A clean house keeps us healthy, and Module 5: Emergencies.

¹⁸ Adult education methodologies and techniques: promote participation and respect, speak in the local language, use simple, understandable vocabulary, and project your voice.



Source: SAMI-PAISANO, FY16

frequency of home visits, so that each family was visited once a month instead of every three months. During the home visits conducted in the last two quarters, the program carried out a quick poll in 1,252 families with support from the NPs to evaluate adoption of practices at the household level. Graph 1 (above) shows the practices that were most adopted. The least adopted practices were: hand washing before eating and preparing meals (56%); introduction of foods of animal origin at nine months (37%); exclusive breastfeeding (26%); initiation of complementary feeding beginning at six months (24%); and, the lowest was seeking health services for prenatal care (16%). In order to understand the barriers for the adoption of these practices the program carried out a quick poll in FY16, for which the final report will be presented in Q1 FY17 report.

This quick poll strengthened the NPs abilities to observe household conditions and negotiate commitments according to the needs encountered. It also facilitated the validation of the instrument for monitoring practices and the simplified home visit guide. The results of this evaluation will make it possible to continue reinforcing the less adopted practices with the families applying the methodology of negotiated behavior change.¹⁹

This year the 58 Nutrition Schools that began in FY15 finalized with a closing ceremony in which the level of knowledge acquired by the participants was measured: the results were presented in the FY16 Q3 report. In Q4 the program implemented 72 new Nutrition Schools, with attendance by 1,516 participants (98% women and 2% men). Over the year, 6,221 food preparation sessions were held (95% of the target), with 5,690 beneficiaries participating (99.3% women). The families learned to combine nutritious foods using recipes with locally available

negotiated behavior change methodology. Training workshops were carried out for the health and nutrition technical team (9 men and 13 women): 237 training sessions for 82 MLs (78 men and 4 women) and 242 training sessions for 475 NPs (447 men and 28 women). This activity strengthened the quality of the implementation of the PAISANO SBC. As of Q4, the number of NPs rose by 12%, which increased the

¹⁹ Steps for negotiated behavior change: 1. Greet the person and build rapport, 2. Ask about their current behaviors and practices, 3. Actively listen/reflect on what the person says, 4. Identify any difficulties/barriers and possible causes; select one difficulty/barrier to address, 5. Dialogue with the person about possible ways to overcome the obstacle or barrier, 6. Recommend and negotiate feasible actions. Ask about possible solutions and negotiate with the person to help them identify an action they can take, 7. The person agrees to try one or more option, then they state the action they have just agreed to try, 8. Agree on when you will visit them again for follow up.

foods, agriculture and livestock products produced with PAISANO support, and donated commodities to improve family diet, and the importance of the use of improved stoves.²⁰

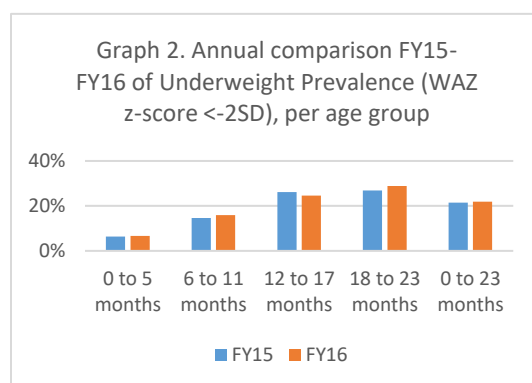
Table No.2. Underweight Prevalence (WAZ z-score <-2SD) per age and gender group in FY16			
Age Group	Male	Female	Total
0 to 5 months	10%	4%	6.58 %
6 to 11 months	20%	12%	15.96 %
12 to 17 months	32%	18%	24.63 %
18 to 23 months	34%	24%	28.86 %
0 to 23 months	27%	17%	21.84%
IPTT/FY16 Targets	19%	18%	19%

Source: SAMI-PAISANO, FY16

The work sessions with the 27 adolescents groups have allowed 348 adolescents between 10 and 15 years of age (197 women and 151 men), to exchange ideas and experiences, strengthen their abilities and sensitize them about the responsibility of their own development and their contribution to the food security (FS) of their communities.²¹ As a result of these sessions, the teens have carried out a variety of activities on a monthly basis. These activities include: home visits to promote health and nutrition practices with families in the 1,000-day Window, promotion of breastfeeding at the community level, participation in the health fairs coordinated with the HS and promotion with other teens about the importance of seeking health care.

The GMP sessions were carried out quarterly in all the intervention communities. Underweight Prevalence (WAZ z-score <-2SD) is presented in Table 2. The underweight prevalence in children under two was 21.84% in FY16, 2.84 percentage points above the target established in the IPTT for this fiscal year, given mainly by the prevalence presented in boys. Although the overall target was not reached, it has to be noted that underweight prevalence has not worsened when compared with FY15, considering the 2016 drought and food insecurity,²² as the health crisis experienced in the region as Graph 2 shows.

In the case of PAISANO's progress with regards to the chronic malnutrition indicator, based on the results of the last GMP session carried out in Q4, the prevalence of stunted children (HAZ z-score <-2SD) aged 0-23 months was 61%, reducing in two 2



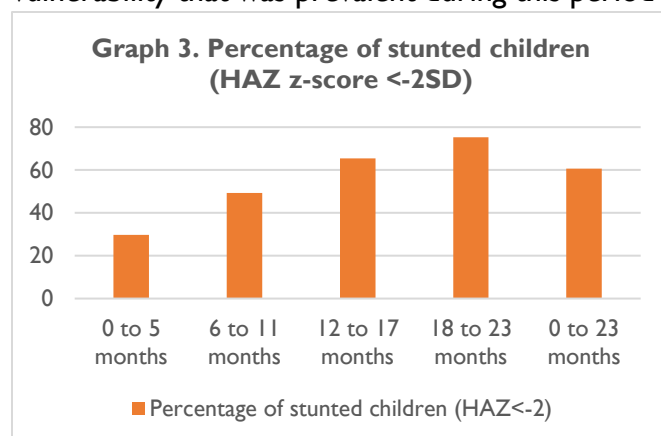
Source: SAMI-PAISANO, FY16

²⁰ During FY16, all the program's participating families received a recipe book designed by PAISANO for use in the monthly food preparation sessions.

²¹ The training modules for youth sessions carried out in FY16 were: Module 1. Learning to live better, I know me, I love me and accept myself. Session 1: Awareness for a permanent participation; Session 2: Being a teenager, discovering myself; Session 3: rights and self-esteem; Session 4: past, present and future, and plans for the future (of teenagers). Module 2. Food Security, malnutrition and the 1,000 days window. Session 1: Food security; Session 2 Malnutrition: Causes and consequences and its relationship to early pregnancies; Session 3 Window of opportunity of the 1000 days; Session 4 Feeding of adolescents and micronutrient supplementation; Session 5 Importance of breastfeeding and complementary feeding. Module 3. Skills for Life. Session 1: The path of life; Session 2 Allied to live; Session 3: We take responsible decisions: (* I resist peer pressure).

²² FEWS NET, (2016). [Key message update: Cobertura de la asistencia de emergencia insuficiente para evitar Crisis March 2016](#); and, [Cosecha de Primera en riesgo a pesar de debilitamiento de El Niño](#). 2016.

percentage points the set goal for this year (63%). Graph 3 (below) presents the data disaggregated by age. The analysis of the prevalence of stunting among children from 0 to 23 months presented at the end of FY16, shows that PAISANO did reach its target for stunting reduction in FY16. The prevalence of stunting continues to be the worst in the 12-17 months and 18-23 month categories. This results then suggest that the activities carried out by PAISANO through the three SO could have had a protective effect in relation to the food vulnerability that was prevalent during this period and is reflected in the nutritional indicators.



Source: SAMI-PAISANO, FY16

Lower-level Result 2.2.2 (LR): Knowledge of and attitudes towards household sanitation and hygiene practices improved: Following the recommendation of the MTE to reduce health risks, the program continued promoting the importance of installation of improved stoves through the food preparation demonstrations in the totality of PAISANO communities.

Lower-level Result 2.2.3 (LR): Household access and use of improved drinking water increased: Due to the time-intensive planning process, the majority of WASH activities were not implemented in FY16. Information from the analysis conducted of the WASH data available will be used to refine the program's selection of target communities to receive a more robust package of WASH activities during FY17.²³ The program promoted and reinforced improved practices for water storage at the household level and prevention of mosquito breeding areas to reduce the risk of dengue, chikungunya and Zika, during the monthly trainings for MLs and NPs, and in 6,221 food preparation demonstrations in which 5,690 people (99.3% women) participated. These topics were particularly relevant given the presence of the Zika virus in PAISANO's program areas in the Western Highlands.

Lower-level Result 2.2.4 (LR): Improved household sanitation practices increased: The practices of having clean play areas for children, safe disposal of babies' feces and use of the family latrine were promoted during food ration distribution and in Nutrition Schools, where 3,029 program families participated. Through this activity, families were sensitized about babies' feces contamination.

Lower-level Result 2.2.5 (LR): Increased household use of improved handwashing at critical times: In FY16, the program began the process of build and place hand washing stations near latrines and kitchens; a total of 200 participants installed tippy taps. This activity will facilitate families remembering to wash their hands in critical moments. During the 6,221 food preparation demonstrations and in Nutrition Schools, the program promoted hand

²³ Analysis from the existing National Living Conditions Survey (ENCOVI), Monitoring and Evaluation Survey of the Western Highlands Program (EMEPAO), and Census surveys.

washing practices using soap and water in critical moments (before meal preparation, before eating or before feeding children, after defecating).

Lower-level Result 2.2.6 (LR): Community and municipal government management and coordination systems improved: Five people from the PAISANO team (1 woman and 4 men) participated in the Training of Trainers in Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST-SARAR) organized by Catholic Relief Services (CRS).²⁴

Strategic Objective 3 (SO3): Community Resilience through governance & disaster preparedness improved

Intermediate Result 3.1 (IR): Community preparedness for prevention and mitigation against adverse shocks increased

Lower-level Result 3.1.1 (LR): Community organization and planning for prevention and mitigation of adverse shocks increased: The activities carried out for this lower result are aimed at improving communities' capacities for prevention and mitigation of shocks and for seeking resources to confront phenomena associated with disasters that could affect the community's FS. Annex 2 describes the new intervention package schemes in SO3.

During this fiscal year and under Scheme One, 36 community mappings of resources and threats were completed reaching 103% of the proposed target. In this activity, 44% of the participants were men (300) and 56%, women (269).²⁵ If adding the results achieved in FY16, the program has completed community mapping in 174 communities for Scheme One, reaching this year's target.

Through the analysis and reflection that took place during the community mapping, communities recognized the risks and their impact on FS, and identified mitigation actions that they could undertake with their own resources. Another result from this activity is that members of the COCODEs took the lead and shared information generated through the mapping exercise with vulnerable groups in their communities.²⁶ In this way, the information gathered was validated and some additional needs identified by these groups were incorporated into the maps. Although resource mobilization was not included in this scheme, it was possible to support four communities in this process: Chutzorop II, Lacama II and Chugüexa II, in the municipality of Chichicastenango, department of Quiché; and Cumbre La Botija in the municipality of Chiantla, department of Huehuetenango. The leaders of these communities demonstrated significant interest on the issue, which enabled them to seek funds from the municipality, with the assistance from PAISANO. Three communities were able to improve a section of a rural road. These funds were included in the municipal budgets for 2016 and 2017.

²⁴ Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation: PHAST is a participatory method that promotes community involvement to solve their water and sanitation problems. This methodology is especially useful for encouraging women's participation and for reinforcing linkages between community and institutional players towards sustainable change with full involvement of local actors.

²⁵ The creation of the map was carried out with involvement of representatives from the authorities, men, elders, youth and women of the community.

²⁶ Vulnerable Groups in the community: Women empowered groups, Youth groups, Committees (Women, water, roads, education health), schools (Youth) and churches.

In the case of the community of Chugüexa II, funds were requested for improvement of a school building and classrooms.

In Scheme Two, 33 community maps which had been developed in the previous years were updated (110% of the annual target), adding new risks and/or community priorities to them. In this process, 43% of the community participants were men (169) and 57% (223) women. The updated maps served as the basis for the development of 28 Plans for Integrated Community Risk Reduction (PIRRs, acronym in Spanish) in an equal number of communities, representing 83% of the annual target. In these plans, the communities prioritized activities to mitigate risks that can affect FS, such as crop pests and diseases, water scarcity, drought, frosts, strong winds, landslides and flooding. COCODE leaders shared these plans with vulnerable groups in each community, to ensure that their priorities were included. As a consequence, 12 communities used their own resources to implement some of the following activities: cleaning campaigns, lobbying for the prohibition of junk food sale in schools, reforestation for protection of water sources, stabilization of embankments and firewood production, review of piped water systems and cleaning of distribution and water storage tanks. Additionally, 28 communities negotiated 28 rehabilitation projects (13 for water and 15 for roads). The implementation of these projects was supported by the program with technical assistance and training on the execution of the projects, required mitigation measures and maintenance. Under this scheme, one of the projects obtained financial support from the local municipality.

For Scheme Three, the program worked in 10 communities, updating 10 PIRRs. This activity enabled the incorporation of new community priorities and seeking resources from local authorities. In this process 257 people participated (111 men, 146 women), representing the different sectors of the community. These PIRRs were shared by the COCODEs with the vulnerable groups in each community and additional priorities identified by these groups were incorporated to the plans.

As a result of updating the 10 PIRRs in four communities, activities were implemented with the communities own resources on reforestation to protect water sources, stabilization of embankments and firewood production, review of water system functioning, and cleaning of distribution and water storage tanks. In eight cases the communities sought funds for these rehabilitation projects (six water projects and two road projects) from PAISANO, the municipalities and other NGOs. PAISANO provided materials and technical assistance for the operation and maintenance of these and mitigation measures. In six communities this support was provided through FFW rations which benefited 826 families during three months of work.

During this reporting period, a total of 38 rehabilitation projects were carried out (1 for irrigation, 18 for water and 19 for roads). Out of these, 28 were for Scheme Two and 10 for Scheme Three. For the Scheme Two projects, PAISANO contributed 80% (in FFW rations) of the costs and the community contributed the remaining 20% (through mainly labor). For Scheme Three, PAISANO contributed 40% of the total costs and the community contributed the remaining 60%. Out of the 10 projects carried out under Scheme Three, eight received financial support from the municipality while the other two were supported by local NGOs. This contributes greatly to the program's sustainability.

PAISANO supported a total of 57 COCODEs with the presentation of the mapping results and the creation of project proposals to government authorities. PAISANO also supported the COCODEs in creating coordination with these government representatives and other NGOs in order to link the priorities established in the PIRRs to Municipal Plans and to facilitate the support of other government institutions (including MAGA, SESAN, MOH, MINEDUC, MARN, INAB). Another important result of SO3 was the implementation of 12 forest nurseries where 43,112 plants of various forest species were produced for reforesting 60 hectares of land in the three PAISANO departments.

Intermediate Result 3.2 (IR): Community and municipality governance and advocacy improved

Lower-level Result 3.2.1 (LR): Governance and advocacy skills of

COCODES/COMUDES strengthened: During this year, PAISANO signed five cooperation agreements with the same number of municipalities (100% of the proposed target).²⁷ This process began in Q1 FY16 with an information session organized with representatives of the 12 municipalities where the program is present. This activity was carried out in order to coordinate the actions that PAISANO would execute in support of the communities, with an emphasis on inclusion of community PIRR actions into the municipal plans with assigned resources. Work plans were developed jointly by PAISANO and the Municipal Planning Bureaus (DMPs by its acronym in Spanish²⁸) in each of the five municipalities. These plans included strengthening of the COCODEs, opportunities for coordination between the community leaders, COMUDES and COMUSANs for the presentation of the PIRRs, and resource allocation for implementation of the activities in these plans.

As a follow up to the municipal agreements, these government organizations have assigned budget resources within their municipal plans to assist 18 communities (12 water and 6 road projects).²⁹

As part of the process of strengthening the COCODEs, the program designed 6 new training modules.³⁰ As a consequence of this training process, the COCODEs now have the required abilities for prioritizing needs related to FS risks, creating project profiles and proposals, seeking resources, and administering community projects. During this fiscal year, training of the COCODEs was completed in 36 communities under Scheme One, with the participation of 635 leaders (422 men and 213 women; 66% and 34%, respectively). For Schemes Two and Three, 48 communities have a COCODE with improved skills. This work was complemented with experience exchanges among COCODEs from different communities. A total of 1,533 leaders (1,206 men and 327 women, 79% and 21% respectively) were involved in the exchanges. In

²⁷ Uspantán and Chichicastenango of the department of Quiché, San Juan Ostuncalco in the department of Quetzaltenango and Chiantla and Todos Santos Cuchumatán in the department of Huehuetenango.

²⁸ The DMP is composed of the Municipal Women's Office (OMM), Commission for Economic, Tourism, Environment and Natural Resources Promotion, the supervisor of the Municipal Forestry Office (OFM).

²⁹ Eight in Chichicastenango, 1 in Uspantán, both in the department of Quiché, 3 in San Juan Ostuncalco of the department of Quetzaltenango, 5 in Chiantla, and 1 in Concepción Huista of the department of Huehuetenango.

³⁰ Topics for Scheme 1: Legal Frameworks, Gender Equality, Good Governance practices; Topics for Schemes 2 and 3: Legal Frameworks, Community Projects, Transparency, Gender Equality, and Good Governance.

addition, in 19 communities COCODE members have carried out community assemblies for accountability in project management.

In the Q3 FY16, PAISANO began collaboration with the Climate, Nature and Communities in Guatemala Program (CNCG by its acronym in Spanish) to launch a campaign on “Adapting to the Change” which contemplates radio spots on climate change adaptation as well as the “Times of Change” programs prepared jointly by PAISANO and CNCG. Three workshops were organized on climate change and FS for journalists from the Western Highlands with the endorsement of the School of Communication Sciences of the University of San Carlos, Guatemala.

Development and implementation of the Gender Equity Strategy

Training on the Gender Action Plan (PAG) for technical and volunteer teams: In order to increase sensitivity to gender and to publicize, provide training and validate the PAG, one workshop was held with the PAISANO management team (8 women and 14 men) and four workshops were held with technical staff from the program’s three SO (65 men and 22 women), in the three departments covered by the program.³¹

Additionally, five workshops were held with MLs and ALs in the program intervention areas (78 women and 56 men). Besides sharing the workshop content, conversations were held to reflect on and define agreements about how to promote the same opportunities for women and men. In these workshops, proposals were made to promote gender equity in the communities. The MLs proposed that families should be made aware of the importance of women being able to increase their income as well as encouraging husbands to support them by helping in household activities. The ALs recommended that social gatherings be held to dialogue about gender topics at the community level using a video to generate conversation and some comparative skits. This will include comparative skits, analysis of the story about *Paco and Tomasa are Expecting a Baby* story, and men’s groups among others.

Inclusion of Gender in Community Resilience processes: A gender focus was incorporated into the Methodological Guide for implementation of Community Risk Maps and PIRRs in order to identify, locate and describe the threats that affect or could affect FS in the communities, taking into account the needs of women, men, adolescents, girls and boys, separately.

In the COCODE training program, the gender focus was incorporated so that women can effectively hold leadership posts in the COSAN/COCOSSAN.³² These guides include the following gender aspects: analysis of how men and women are affected; at least one photograph or drawing should show women and men in non-traditional actions; analysis of women’s and men’s participation in these entities, and use of inclusive language.

³¹ Content: sensitization about sex, gender, equality, equity, roles and gender stereotypes, barrier analysis and facilitators that support implementation of the PAG.

³² Training program topics in which the gender focus is incorporated: functions of the COCODE and laws for citizen participation; preparation of community project profiles with gender focus; resource seeking and negotiation of community projects, accountability with transparency, gender equity, good governance practices.

Inclusion of the Gender focus in health and nutrition: 15 training guides for ML, 15 for NP and 15 for Nutrition Schools for Mothers and Fathers with the following practices: decision making, including seeking HS for women and for their children, husbands and parents ensure women care pregnancy, post-partum and breastfeeding.

Additionally, the volunteer team requested a guide for promoting self-esteem in the community in relation to gender equity. This guide contemplates aspects such as: care for one's body, recognition of abilities and capacities, promotion of affection, love, acceptance, respect, understanding, education according to their age, use of kind words and the need for rules for relationships.

Commodity Distribution & Transition to Cash Transfers

Following up on the recommendations made by the MTE, PAISANO took steps to refine its beneficiary targeting mechanisms to better determine household and individual eligibility to receive inputs as well as other incentives provided by the program. The fulfillment of these recommendations,³³ however, negatively impacted program execution even beyond estimations prepared at the beginning of FY. The implementation of suggested measures generated unease and distrust towards the program, so an intensive process of promotion and information was necessary to regain lost credibility.

As shown in table 4, PAISANO distributed 84,402 rations (1,397 metric tons) in Maternal Child Health MCH activities, which represents 93.16% of the projected target. FFW reached 59.47% of the target, this figure mainly corresponds to the low interest showed by participants once they were informed of the retargeting and shift in modality. Prior to being approved, FFW projects have to comply with a mitigation measures plan, which in most cases means additional tasks/labor and/or local resources have to be performed/completed by participants, sometimes this requirement is a disincentive to community participation.

Table No. 4. MCH and FFW Rations, FY16								
SO2 Activities	Achieved by Department			Total			Total %	
	Quiché	Quetz	Huehue	Achieved	Target	%	Male %	Female %
# Ration Distribution MCH	42,650	19,776	21,976	84,402	90,600	93.16	13	87
# Ration Distribution, FFW	7,973	1,571	5,324	14,868	25,000	59.47	44	56

Source: SAMI - PAISANO, FY16

Table 5 summarizes metric tons distributed in MCH and FFW, per organization and quarter during FY16.

Table No. 5. Metric Tons Distributed, PAISANO, FY16				
ACTIVITY	ORGANIZATION	QUARTER	TOTAL	%

³³ The MTE recommended PAISANO: stop participation of children older than 24 months; limit families to one participation round per family; and that new families' eligibility to receive program resources would be determined by PPI results.

		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
MCH	SC	299	190	226	309	1,024	73.29
	PCI	127	78	88	80	373	26.71
MCH Total		426	268	314	389	1,397	100.00
ACTIVITY	ORGANIZATION	QUARTER				TOTAL	%
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
FFW	SC	69	49	166	84	368	64.19
	PCI	59	33	79	35	206	35.81
FFW Total		128	82	245	119	574	100.00

Overall commodities distributed total 1,971 metric tons, this amount accounts 75.87% from total approved in FY16. The remaining 24.13% will be used to perform deliveries during Q1 of FY17 and complete the transition to the new cash transfers modality.

Transition to cash transfers

The MTE recommended implementing partners shift from the distribution of food commodities to beneficiaries as incentives for participation in key program activities, to a voucher mechanism that would provide beneficiaries access to locally-available, preferred foods. Later on in July 2016, FFP opened up the possibility for the agencies to explore cash transfers as alternative to replace current food distributions.

Through research into the available and market-oriented options, vendor capacity, and the relevant regulatory frameworks, Save the Children has determined that cash transfers are the most appropriate transfer modality within PAISANO's programmatic and geographic context. Guatemala has a highly developed cash transfer system already operational in rural communities. In addition to being the preferred transfer method in the regions where PAISANO operates, the Market Assessment conducted in June 2016 indicates there is low inflationary risk associated with conditional cash transfers, and the same research found that several vendors interviewed indicated they were willing to lower prices in response to additional demand created.³⁴

During the reporting period, the program carried out activities oriented to achieve a smooth transition towards the new proposed modality, such as: assess the feasibility of implementing a shift to vouchers; determine the appropriateness and cost-effectiveness of various kinds of support (food rations, vouchers and cash); assess market capacity to support a voucher system; and, collection of secondary data from: related stakeholders, program implementer's and potential service providers. Among the main agencies consulted include: the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), CRS, Government of Guatemala (GoG)/Ministry of Social Development (MIDES, acronym in Spanish), the World Food Program (WFP), BANRURAL, Tigo Money, MasterCard Aid; information which have also served in the design and elaboration of SC's implementation plan.

³⁴ Market Study On The Viability Of A Program Of Coupons For Food In The Guatemalan Highlands, Virzi, Nicholas, September 2016

PAISANO Environmental Compliance

In order to guarantee the implementation of mitigation measures and minimize negative environmental impacts caused by program activities for families and communities, PAISANO, through its environmental component and based on the criteria defined in the Monitoring and Environmental Reporting Matrix (EMPR) and Environmental Compliance Regulations (22 CFR 216), trained, accompanied and provided technical assistance to the technical and community staff to ensure implementation of the mitigation measures in the different activities carried out by PAISANO.

In Q1 of FY16, in order to evaluate adoption of the mitigation measures in the different PAISANO activities, environmental monitoring was carried out to collect information related to the three SO based on the activities reported in Automated System for Information and Monitoring (SAMI, acronym in Spanish). A stratified statistical sample was used with a margin of error of 10% and a confidence level of 90%. Based on this, 1,977 households were interviewed. The results indicate that the degree of implementation of mitigation measures by SO was 62% for SO1, 78% for SO2 and 83% for SO3; an overall average of 74% for the program. The detailed results from this evaluation were included in the EMPR matrix attached to the FY16 PREP sent to FFP in February 2016. Additionally these were shared with the technical teams in the different PAISANO regions and were then used to prepare an action plan which will be evaluated in the environmental monitoring that will take place in Q1 of FY17.

The PAISANO environmental monitoring unit carried out training workshops for community volunteer staff from the three SO, COCODEs and nursery owners/workers (515 men and 953 women).³⁵ After the training, follow up was provided for implementation of the mitigation measures in the family productive units, based on the results of the primer monitoring carried out with 42 AL; 111 agriculture promoters and 1,412 SO1 beneficiaries. Table 6 shows the results.

Table No. 6. Productive units implemented with mitigation measures in SO1			
Mitigation measures Implemented	Productive units	M	F
Soil conservation practices to reduce water erosion	97	57	46
Application of the MIP (mechanical, physical, cultural and etiological method)	235	118	157
Post-harvest management of corn in silos to reduce pest and rodent contamination	25	20	5
Collection, management and disposal of viscera and dead animals	128	42	86
Environmental practices in home gardens	132	52	80
Collection, management and disposal of veterinary medical waste, according to LAC 5 guide.		15	0
Use and management of compost pits	134	91	60
Environmental practices in goat module	65	25	40

³⁵ The topics included: Mitigation measures in home gardens; collection, management and disposal of solid waste; management, operation and maintenance of irrigation systems; soil management and conservation; management of veterinary medical waste; integrated pest management, post-harvest management; management and disposal of viscera and dead animals, reuse of solid waste, use and management of compost pits, construction of micro sanitary landfill; reforestation practices, and strengthening of 22 CFR 216 and EMPR guidelines.

Environmental practices in rabbit module	65	25	40
Environmental practices in poultry module	83	33	50
Total	836	436	478

Also based on the first monitoring carried out with 52 ML, 110 NP and 251 beneficiaries of SO2, the following results were obtained as it is depicted in Table 7.

Table No. 7. Mitigation Measures Implemented in SO2			
Mitigation Measures implemented	Households	M	F
Collection, management and disposal of viscera and dead animals	128	42	86
Reuse of solid waste from distribution centers (sacks, boxes and oil containers) and filter units	199	93	106
Reforestation by ML s and NP with 3,650 seedlings with the involvement of the family members	1047	117	930
Total	327	222	1122

Table 8 describes the mitigation measures implemented at the community level with SO3 to prevent negative impacts to the environment.

Table No. 8. Mitigation Measures Implemented in SO3			
Mitigation measures implemented	Communities	M	F
Production of 50,059 forest seedlings from native species in 14 nurseries (alder, elderberry, oak and pine) in order to compensate and protect a 45 hectare water recharge area	14	0	14
Collection, management and disposal of solid waste in communities	12	100	0
26 plans for mitigation measures were prepared and 26 projects were determined to be viable (18 road rehabilitation, 6 piped water system rehabilitations and 2 rehabilitations of piped water and roads)	26		

Additionally, the program ensured the mitigation measures established in the ENCAP³⁶ guides, regulation 216 and the EMPR, were implemented during the construction of the three CAP: an environmental monitoring plan was elaborated for its' application.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning

Incorporation of Recommendations from the Mid-Term Evaluation: In FY16, PAISANO incorporated recommendations from the 2015 MTE into the program design in order to maximize the impact of the program. The modifications were intended to result in a more diverse program, adapted to the needs of participants, with increased quality of methodologies and interventions. Annex I presents the details of actions carried out in FY16 for each strategic objective based on the MTE recommendations.

PAISANO Sustainability & Exit Strategy: FFP sent their observations on this plan which was presented as part of the FY16 PREP and PAISANO submitted its responses.

³⁶ ENCAP, Illustrated Field Guide for small scale construction/USAID (Section B, construction management; environmental deficits and C, management of construction deficit for health and security).

Application of the PPI tool for PAISANO beneficiaries: As has been reported in the quarterly reports, in response to the MTE recommendation related to the type of beneficiaries participating in PAISANO, FFP approved PAISANO's use of the Progress out of Poverty Index (PPI) tool as a means for determining the probability of the degree of poverty among current beneficiaries. The PPI tool generates scores for each household based on 10 questions and specific ranges of scores are associated with the probabilities of being below the poverty line in Guatemala and the USAID poverty lines. The determination of the cut-off scores to classify a household as being in poverty or extreme poverty is associated with a percentage probability for each range of scores.

In Q2 of FY16, PAISANO staff completed more than 8,939 interviews with current beneficiaries receiving a food ration for PM2A. Responses were obtained for 99.7% of the households that were visited (8,908). Representation by department was: 49% from Quiché, 31% from Huehuetenango and 20% from Quetzaltenango. The results were: 55% of the current program households were classified as Poor, 28%, Extremely Poor and the remaining 17%, Not Poor. The results were presented to the technical team in each PAISANO office as well as to the SCUS technical team involved in the Program. This demonstrated that the majority of the households that PAISANO is assisting fall into the poor or extremely poor categories (83%). Beginning in April, all families who entered the program have been evaluated using the PPI tool as a first filter to determine the level of assistance that PAISANO will give them, although all are eligible for trainings and technical assistance. Additional in kind assistance ranged from 100% (food and supplies) for the poor and extremely poor to 0% in-kind distributions for those classified as "Not Poor." To date, 2,432 households in the PAISANO intervention areas have been visited and 92% have been classified as "Poor" or "Extremely poor." The remaining 8% were classified as "Not Poor." These households have been given the message that they can participate in the program activities that are not related to the delivery of foods or supplies. All of the families who have been classified as "Not Poor" have chosen to not participate in PAISANO because there is no tangible incentive.

Summary of Targets Achieved: During the life of the Program, 24,849 households have been assisted, reaching 94% of the final target established for PAISANO implementation. During this fiscal year, 6,839 households were added to the 18,010 that had been covered through FY15. At the end of September 2016, SAMI records show that 5,578 households continued receiving food rations as part of the assistance given to families with children within the 1,000-Day Window, nevertheless, during fiscal year 2016, 5,202 children were recorded as having graduated from the program which results in the number of families assisted during the year with P2MA rations to 11,080 families. For those families who received technical assistance under SO1, during this fiscal year, 5,098 households received at least one training in livelihoods and agricultural topics. Cumulatively, 13,843 households have been assisted in this area, reaching 6% of the target. With regard to SO3, at the end of this year 189 communities had been assisted.

Routine Monitoring of PAISANO Field Activities

Survey on Social Behavior Change

During Q4 of FY16, a survey was carried out with PAISANO SO3 beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries (80% participants and 20% non-participants) to examine their perception of the social and behavior change (SBC) activities that the program has been promoting. The samples includes priority communities under Scheme 3 under SO3. A stratified probability sample was chosen which was representative based on population weight, with a 5% margin of error and a confidence level of 95%. From a total of 2712 households, 343 were surveyed and representation by department was as follows: 61% for Quiché, 22% for Huehuetenango and 17% for Quetzaltenango. The data collection process was the responsibility of the Monitoring and Evaluation staff with support from a communication sciences university student. The KoBoCollect mobile application was used for data collection and analysis. The final report is under review by participants from the Rafael Landívar University.

Post-food Distribution Survey

During Q4 of FY16, this survey was carried out aimed at PAISANO beneficiaries who are receiving food rations within the 1,000-Day Window. A stratified probability sample was selected which was representative based on population weight with a margin of error of 5% and a confidence level of 95%. A total of 394 surveys were completed at the household level. The representation by department was 47% for Quiché, 29% for Huehuetenango, and 24% in Quetzaltenango. The data collection process was the responsibility of Monitoring and Evaluation staff. The KoBoCollect mobile application was used for data collection and analysis.

The main results included: 39% of those interviewed said that in addition to the food they also received nutritional support; 27% received some type of agricultural assistance; 25% had participated in training activities; and, 5% in some enterprise or business.

The findings indicate that 1,000 day window beneficiaries supported by the program acknowledge that they are participating in other program activities. Results imply that the average time of participation in the program was 15 months, with receipt of an average of 11 food rations: 90% had never missed a food distribution, 95% take less than an hour to get to the distribution center; 75% understand why they were selected to participate in the program - mainly identifying (49%) Mother Leaders or Nutrition Promoter - with 74% feeling that the beneficiary selection process is fair; 36% of the beneficiaries know that there is a mechanism for making complaints and giving feedback to the program; 3% said they had made a complaint, and 2% said they knew that something was done about it; in 94% of the cases, the wife is the one who decides how to use the food (they also mentioned husbands and grandparents but to a lesser degree); 69% indicated that in the home there is more food to eat as a result of the ration; and 50% stated that in the home they spend less money on basic foods because they receive the ration; 64% indicated that the food lasts them for four weeks, 22%, for more than a month, 13%, for three weeks and only 1%, for two weeks; and, 96% of those interviewed stated that they were satisfied with the food received during their last distribution.³⁷

No annual survey was carried during FY16 as USAID has confirmed that the data in SAMI collected through routine monitoring and surveys is sufficient. As such, data reported for this year comes from beneficiary information already registered in SAMI. Data included in the IPTT

³⁷ Those who were not satisfied, mentioned that they did not like the flavor of the pinto beans.

(Attachment C), DIP (Attachment F), and the SAPQ (Attachment M), was completed through the use of SAMI. Attachments C, F, and M present the rationale on the over/under achievement (10%) compared to the planned targets. Attachment E presents a description of the data sources used for each indicator.

Challenges, Successes & Lessons Learned

Challenges

Challenge	Actions	Status
Getting local actors integral to the PAISANO Exit and Sustainability Strategy to commit to give continuity to the activities defined in each of the strategic objectives.	Consolidate coordination with previously identified local actors (MoH, AGROS, MAGA, Bárbara Ford, Municipalities, and EcoFiltro, among others) and reiterate needs of the program and opportunities for their continuation by these actors. Involve other local actors to establish coordination and build networks.	In process
Encourage greater participation among families with children 24 to 30 months old, promoting the benefits of their assistance in growth monitoring and promotion, and other activities.	One strategy is the sponsoring of beneficiary families by other families with children within this age range and families with children older than 2 years, to share their experiences regarding the adoption of practices, explaining the benefits of participating in program activities, especially in GMP activity, and promote attendance.	In process
Replicate the experience of Nutrition School coupled with a Children's School, developed by health and nutrition Technicians in the department of Quetzaltenango, as an innovative strategy to encourage the participation of mothers and promote early stimulation practices.	Incorporate this action as part of the SO2 activities in FY17. Implement this initiative in 50% of Nutrition Schools in FY17.	Pending

Successes

Promotion of Financial Literacy and Business Skills Very Positively Received

In FY16, the SOI team introduced marketing, business skills, financial literacy and organizational management training to a diverse number of beneficiaries including youth, women, informal farmers groups, registered farmers' association members, Agricultural Leaders, and others. The response was overwhelming positive and participants demonstrated great interest and motivation for this training. Women's Empowerment savings and lending groups have been demonstrating positive results and success in response to this type of training consistently since the beginning of the program. These capacity building elements will continue to be a key element of the final year and a half of PAISANO activities as it not only empowers beneficiaries but also addresses some of the underlying determinants of poverty and food insecurity. They

will also contribute to the sustainability strategy of further promoting fee-based, self-financing opportunities.

Initiatives within the Health and Nutrition activities

The SO2 technical team implemented complementary initiatives together with the health and nutrition activities, which encouraged the assistance of participants and the adoption of practices promoted by the program.

- In Nutrition Schools: i) Literacy classes to women who do not know how to read and write in Cunén municipality in Quiché; ii) Making covers for water filters and tablecloths as a complementary activity which motivated mothers to complete the training process and the adoption of hygiene practices at home; and, iii) Nutrition school for children, complementary to the Nutrition School for parents, as a strategy to promote certain habits into practice, like having a clean area for babies and application early stimulation practices.
- Promote the use of recycled material: i) to surround the area where the latrine; and, ii) Making fly trappers using recycled material in various communities in the department of Quetzaltenango, where problems with flies have been identified.

Lessons Learned

Promotion of rabbit production and consumption is a positive alternative for families with limited space: Small livestock species are an important asset for families, because, in addition to providing a high-protein animal source food, they also generate income through the sale of surplus production. The production of rabbits is an activity that works well for families with limited resources and space. Early on in the implementation of this activity, SOI staff carried out field surveys and found there wasn't a strong habit of consumption of rabbit meat. For this reason, SOI applied adaptive management approaches and incorporated recipes and food demonstrations on preparing rabbit meat in locally preferred meals (refer to Annex 4). As a result, families' interest in producing and consuming this meat has significantly increased. For FY17, in coordination with the SO2 team, the program will expand food preparation demonstrations in all of the communities that have rabbit production, including some communities that are not currently included in the program.